SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 1263

96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES FALLERT (Sponsor), CONWAY (27) AND NEWMAN (Co-sponsors).

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D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 115.631, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof three new sections relating to elections, with penalty provisions.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 115.631, RSMo, is repealed and three new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 115.164, 115.628, and 115.631, to read as follows:

- 115.164. 1. Each individual who requests ten or more voter registration applications from the secretary of state and who is not a deputy registration official, whether the individual makes the request on the individual's own behalf or on behalf of 4 any group, shall be at least eighteen years of age, and shall submit the information required by this section to the secretary of state before receiving the applications. The secretary of state shall preserve the information required by this section.
 - 2. The following information shall be provided to the secretary of state on a form furnished by the secretary of state to receive voter registration applications under this section:
- 10 (1) The requesting individual's name;
- (2) The street number, city, state, and zip code of the address of the requesting 11 12 individual's place of residence, or a mailing address, if different;
 - (3) The requesting individual's telephone number;
- 14 (4) An indication whether the request is on the individual's own behalf or on behalf 15 of a group or organization;

(5) If the request is on behalf of a group or organization, the name of each individual who will distribute the voter registration applications on behalf of the group or organization;

- (6) A statement that the requesting individual swears or affirms under penalty of perjury that the information provided in the form is true and correct;
 - (7) The requesting individual's signature.
- 3. The secretary of state shall make registration training available to individuals requesting voter registration applications under this section in a manner prescribed by the secretary of state. If the voter registration applications are requested on behalf of a group or organization, the training shall be made available to each person who will distribute the voter registration applications provided to the group or organization.
- 4. Notwithstanding section 560.016 to the contrary, any individual who knowingly swears or affirms falsely as to any information required in this section shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by fine of not more than two thousand five hundred dollars or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or by both such fine and imprisonment.
- 5. If an individual requesting voter registration applications under this section submits false information to the secretary of state in violation of this section, any voter registration application requested under this section that is submitted to the election authority shall be accepted by the election authority if such application is otherwise valid.
- 115.628. 1. Any individual who knowingly signs any name other than the individual's own name to any voter registration application shall be guilty of a class one election offense as provided in section 115.631.
- 2. Any individual who knowingly furnishes false identification to an election official in order to cast a ballot under section 115.427 shall be guilty of a class B felony connected with the exercise of the right of suffrage.
- 3. Any individual who willfully and falsely completes the certificate, affidavit, statement, or ballot of another individual under section 115.283 or 115.284 shall be guilty of a class B felony connected with the exercise of the right of suffrage.
- 115.631. **In addition to the offenses provided for in section 115.628,** the following offenses, and any others specifically so described by law, shall be class one election offenses and are deemed felonies connected with the exercise of the right of suffrage. Conviction for any of these offenses shall be punished by imprisonment of not more than five years or by fine of not less than two thousand five hundred dollars but not more than ten thousand dollars or by both such imprisonment and fine:

(1) Willfully and falsely making any certificate, affidavit, or statement required to be made pursuant to any provision of sections 115.001 to 115.641 [and sections 51.450 and 51.460, PRSMo], including but not limited to statements specifically required to be made "under penalty of perjury"; or in any other manner knowingly furnishing false information to an election authority or election official engaged in any lawful duty or action in such a way as to hinder or mislead the authority or official in the performance of official duties. If an individual willfully and falsely makes any certificate, affidavit, or statement required to be made under section 115.155, including but not limited to statements specifically required to be made "under penalty of perjury", such individual shall be guilty of a class C felony;

- (2) Voting more than once or voting at any election knowing that the person is not entitled to vote or that the person has already voted on the same day at another location inside or outside the state of Missouri;
- (3) Procuring any person to vote knowing the person is not lawfully entitled to vote or knowingly procuring an illegal vote to be cast at any election;
- (4) Applying for a ballot in the name of any other person, whether the name be that of a person living or dead or of a fictitious person, or applying for a ballot in his own or any other name after having once voted at the election inside or outside the state of Missouri;
- (5) Aiding, abetting or advising another person to vote knowing the person is not legally entitled to vote or knowingly aiding, abetting or advising another person to cast an illegal vote;
- (6) An election judge knowingly causing or permitting any ballot to be in the ballot box at the opening of the polls and before the voting commences;
- (7) Knowingly furnishing any voter with a false or fraudulent or bogus ballot, or knowingly practicing any fraud upon a voter to induce him to cast a vote which will be rejected, or otherwise defrauding him of his vote;
- (8) An election judge knowingly placing or attempting to place or permitting any ballot, or paper having the semblance of a ballot, to be placed in a ballot box at any election unless the ballot is offered by a qualified voter as provided by law;
- (9) Knowingly placing or attempting to place or causing to be placed any false or fraudulent or bogus ballot in a ballot box at any election;
- (10) Knowingly removing any legal ballot from a ballot box for the purpose of changing the true and lawful count of any election or in any other manner knowingly changing the true and lawful count of any election;
- (11) Knowingly altering, defacing, damaging, destroying or concealing any ballot after it has been voted for the purpose of changing the lawful count of any election;
- 41 (12) Knowingly altering, defacing, damaging, destroying or concealing any poll list, 42 report, affidavit, return or certificate for the purpose of changing the lawful count of any election;

43 (13) On the part of any person authorized to receive, tally or count a poll list, tally sheet 44 or election return, receiving, tallying or counting a poll list, tally sheet or election return the 45 person knows is fraudulent, forged or counterfeit, or knowingly making an incorrect account of 46 any election;

- (14) On the part of any person whose duty it is to grant certificates of election, or in any manner declare the result of an election, granting a certificate to a person the person knows is not entitled to receive the certificate, or declaring any election result the person knows is based upon fraudulent, fictitious or illegal votes or returns;
- (15) Willfully destroying or damaging any official ballots, whether marked or unmarked, after the ballots have been prepared for use at an election and during the time they are required by law to be preserved in the custody of the election judges or the election authority;
- (16) Willfully tampering with, disarranging, altering the information on, defacing, impairing or destroying any voting machine or marking device after the machine or marking device has been prepared for use at an election and during the time it is required by law to remain locked and sealed with intent to impair the functioning of the machine or marking device at an election, mislead any voter at the election, or to destroy or change the count or record of votes on such machine;
- (17) Registering to vote knowing the person is not legally entitled to register or registering in the name of another person, whether the name be that of a person living or dead or of a fictitious person;
- (18) Procuring any other person to register knowing the person is not legally entitled to register, or aiding, abetting or advising another person to register knowing the person is not legally entitled to register;
- (19) Knowingly preparing, altering or substituting any computer program or other counting equipment to give an untrue or unlawful result of an election;
- (20) On the part of any person assisting a blind or disabled person to vote, knowingly failing to cast such person's vote as such person directs;
- (21) On the part of any registration or election official, permitting any person to register to vote or to vote when such official knows the person is not legally entitled to register or not legally entitled to vote;
- (22) On the part of a notary public acting in his official capacity, knowingly violating any of the provisions of sections 115.001 to 115.627 or any provision of law pertaining to elections;
- 76 (23) Violation of any of the provisions of sections 115.275 to 115.303, or of any provision of law pertaining to absentee voting;

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78 (24) Assisting a person to vote knowing such person is not legally entitled to such assistance, or while assisting a person to vote who is legally entitled to such assistance, in any manner coercing, requesting or suggesting that the voter vote for or against, or refrain from voting on any question, ticket or candidate;

- (25) Engaging in any act of violence, destruction of property having a value of five hundred dollars or more, or threatening an act of violence with the intent of denying a person's lawful right to vote or to participate in the election process; and
- (26) Knowingly providing false information about election procedures for the purpose of preventing any person from going to the polls.

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